

December 17, 2014

The Honorable County Executive Dow Constantine
King County Chinook Building
401 5th Ave. Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Executive Constantine:

We are writing to thank you and King County for initiating an enforcement investigation into potential violations of county law regarding the destruction of aquatic resources on the Gunshy Manor site, located on the east side of 196th Avenue NE, Redmond, also known as "Red Brick Road" (hereinafter "the Site") and request that the County:

- (1) conduct a thorough investigation that engages with all potential witnesses and enforcement agencies to ensure the full scope of any code violations are discovered and aggressively pursue enforcement action for any and all code violations at the Site;
- (2) to the extent there are violations, require full restoration of all disturbed areas by an independent and certified wetland restoration specialist with full county oversight and coordination with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology;
- (3) require permanent conservation easements for the restoration areas, all restored and existing wetlands and streams, and all critical area buffers plus 500 feet;
- (4) impose maximum civil penalties for each violation under KCC 23.32.040 and any other applicable provisions of county law;
- (5) impose a six year moratorium on all development and permitting on King County tax parcels 0825069012, 0825069013, 0825069102, 0825069103, 0825069104, and 0825069105, as outlined in King County Permitting Customer Bulletin #28;
- (6) conduct a full criminal investigation into possible false statements made during earlier county enforcement investigations and prosecute any individual(s) found to have made false statements;
- (7) pursue civil and criminal actions against any contractor who performed work at the site in violation of King County law;
- (8) fully support any enforcement actions by the federal government, including but not limited to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the United States Department of Justice;
- (9) support a special district overlay that will protect the historical, aquatic and ecological resources on and adjacent to Red Brick Road, including its surrounding wetlands and tributaries to Evans Creek and the Evans Creek Natural Area;

(10) revoke Certificate of Appropriateness No. 1318;

(11) present a plan to enforce existing “local access only” and weight limit restrictions on the road and introduce other traffic calming measures (lower speed limit, access restriction, etc.) to reduce the impact of traffic on the historic roadway;

(12) provide regular updates to the community on enforcement progress and meet with the community before assessing penalties to discuss these matters and next steps for protecting this special historical and ecological resource for future generations of King County residents.

These actions are the reasonable and necessary steps for King County to begin rebuilding credibility with the community – credibility that was completely broken by a pattern and practice of failing to respond to citizen tips and complaints regarding the unpermitted destruction of aquatic resources at the Site, including moving and channelizing one or more tributaries to Evans Creek, or take enforcement action for more than four years and only after federal and state agencies became aware of the issue.

Best regards,

Citizens of King County (see attached signatures)

cc:

Michael Szerlog, Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Aquatic Resource Unit
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Mailstop ETPA-083
6th Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101

Chan Pongkhamsing
CWA 404 Enforcement Coordinator
Aquatic Resources Unit
Ecosystems, Tribal, and Public Affairs Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, ETPA-083
Seattle, Washington 98101

Matthew Bennett
Regulatory Branch Section Chief
United States Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 3755
Seattle, WA 98124-3755

Thomas Young
Acting Senior Assistant Attorney General
Washington State Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 40117
Olympia, WA 98504-0117

Erik C. Stockdale, Section Manager
Shorelands & Environmental Assistance
Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

Patrick McGraner
Wetlands Specialist
Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008

Phil Anderson, Director
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way N.
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

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